



Aruba's ONLY English newspaper

STREETS OF ORANJESTAD ILLUMINATED WITH THE MAGIC OF THE LIGHTING PARADE FOR CARNIVAL 70

Carnival Schedule

ORANJESTAD – Carnival is in full-swing in Aruba for the next two weeks, which will culminate with a week-end of back-to-back parades on the streets! Do not miss the most important upcoming events.

Schedule di Carnaval Wednesday 07 February:
Lighting Parade in San Nicolas starting at 8pm.

Friday 09 February:
School Parade in Oranjestad starting

10am;
School Parade in San Nicolas starting 10am.

Saturday 10 February:
Grand Parade in San Nicolas starting at 11am.

Sunday 11 February:
Grand Parade in Oranjestad starting at 10am;
Burning of the Momo at Aruba Harbour Arena starting at 7pm.

Monday 12 February:
Carnival Monday.



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LIVE ENTERTAINMENT 7 DAYS A WEEK

PROFESSIONAL COMPLIMENTARY PICTURES ON TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

SUNDAY:
MARRYBELL MADURO
SINGER
6:30 - 8:30pm

MONDAY:
ANGELA FLORES
VIOLINIST
6:30 - 8:30pm

TUESDAY:
JEAN PAUL
SAXOPHONIST
6:30 - 8:30pm

WEDNESDAY:
EDDIE KROON
SINGER 4:00 - 6:00pm

MAILLEYN ALVARADO
VIOLINIST 6:30 - 8:30pm

KARAOKE 9:00 - 11:00pm

THURSDAY:
MARRYBELL MADURO
SINGER
6:30 - 8:30pm

FRIDAY:
RICKY THOMAS
GUITARIST
7:00 - 9:00pm

SATURDAY:
EDDIE KROON
SINGER
4:00 - 6:00pm

ANGELA FLORES
VIOLINIST
6:30 - 8:30pm

WATER'S EDGE
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beach resort

Happy Hour
12 - 1 / 4 - 6 / 9 - 10

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GOP governors back at Texas border to keep pressure on Biden over migrant crossings



Micki Larson-Olson holds a flag near the site where Texas Gov. Greg Abbott and fellow Governors will meet along the Rio Grande at the U.S.-Mexico border to discuss Operation Lone Star and border concerns, Sunday, Feb. 4, 2024, in Eagle Pass, Texas.

Associated Press

By **VALERIE GONZALEZ**
Associated Press

PIEDRAS NEGRAS, Mexico
(AP) — Kyle Willis woke up in

Mexico on Sunday, weighing different options for entry into the U.S. after being turned away at the most fortified stretch of Texas' border last week. The 23-year-old Jamaican, who said he left his country after facing attacks and discrimination due to his sexuality, had followed the path of a historic number of migrants over the past two years and tried crossing the Rio Grande at the border city of Eagle Pass. But he waded back across the river after spending hours, in soaking clothes, failing to persuade Texas National Guard soldiers behind a razor wire fence to let him through. "It's not just something they're



A participant carries a sign outside of a "Take Our Border Back" rally, Saturday, Feb. 3, 2024, in Quemado, Texas.

Associated Press

saying to deter persons from coming in. It's actually real," said Willis, who for now is staying at a shelter in Piedras Negras. His experience would be considered a victory for Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, who was expected to return to Eagle Pass on Sunday afternoon with more than a dozen other GOP governors who have cheered on his extraordinary showdown with President Joe Biden's administration over immigration enforcement. But a decline in crossings is part of a complex mix of developments in play across the U.S. border, including heightened Mexican enforcement. Meanwhile, migrants are moving further down the river and crossing elsewhere. The record number of border crossings is a political liability for President Joe Biden and an issue that Republicans are eager to put front and center to voters in an election year. Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis last week committed to send more National Guard troops to Texas and other governors are also weighing new deployments. Eagle Pass is where Texas has been locked in a power struggle with the Biden administration for the past month after the state began denying access to U.S. Border Patrol agents at the riverfront Shelby Park. Crossings in recent weeks are down overall along the entire U.S. border, including areas without such a heavy security presence. Tucson, Arizona, which has been the busiest of nine Border Patrol sectors on

the Mexican border, tallied 13,800 arrests in the week-long period that ended Friday. That is down 29% from a peak of 19,400 in week ended Dec. 22, according to John Modlin, the sector chief. Just a day after Biden expressed "his appreciation for Mexico's operational support and for taking concrete steps to deter irregular migration" in a call with President Andrés Manuel López Obrador, the Mexican immigration agency said Sunday that in the last week, they had rescued 71 immigrants — 22 of them minors — in two groups stranded on sand bars of the Rio Grande, between Eagle Pass and Piedras Negras. They were from Mexico, Central America, Ecuador and Peru. Biden, now sounding increasingly like former President Donald Trump, is pressing Congress for asylum restrictions that would have been unthinkable when he took office. Immigration remains a major worry for voters in the 2024 election: An AP-NORC poll earlier this month found that voters voicing concerns about immigration climbed to 35% from 27% last year. The arrival of GOP governors to Eagle Pass rounds out a weekend that has kept the small border city of roughly 30,000 residents in an unwitting spotlight. Hundreds protesting Biden's immigration policies held a "Take Back Our Border" rally on the outskirts of the city on Saturday where vendors sold Donald Trump-inspired MAGA hats and Trump flags. □

Live Entertainment at 8PM

<p>MON Latin Dance Show</p>	<p>TUE Steelpan Music</p>
<p>WED Cultural Dance Show</p>	<p>THU Acrobatic Show</p>
<p>SUN Violin Show</p>	<p>Nightly Watershow 7:30pm - 8:30pm - 9:30pm</p>

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www.paseoherencia.com

Claims that Jan. 6 rioters are 'political prisoners' endure. Judges want to set the record straight

By MICHAEL KUNZELMAN
and ALANNA DURKIN RICH-
ER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — While sentencing a North Carolina man to prison for his role in the U.S. Capitol riot, a Republican-appointed judge issued a stark warning: Efforts to portray the mob of Donald Trump's supporters as heroes and play down the violence that unfolded on Jan. 6, 2021, pose a serious threat to the nation.

U.S. District Judge Royce Lamberth condemned the depiction by Trump and Republican allies of Jan. 6 defendants as "political prisoners" and "hostages." Lamberth also denounced attempts to undermine the legitimacy of the justice system for punishing rioters who broke the law when they invaded the Capitol.

"In my 37 years on the bench, I cannot recall a time when such meritless justifications of criminal activity have gone mainstream," Lamberth, an appointee of President Ronald Reagan, wrote in a recent ruling. The judge added he "fears that such destructive, misguided rhetoric could presage further danger to our country."

As Trump floats potential pardons for rioters if he returns to the White House, judges overseeing the more than 1,200 Jan. 6 criminal cases in Washington's federal court are using their platform to try to set the record straight concerning distortions about an attack that was broadcast live on television. A growing number of defendants appear to be embracing rhetoric spread by Trump, giving defiant speeches in court, repeating his false election claims and portraying themselves as patriots.

During a recent court hearing, Proud Boys member Marc Bru repeatedly insulted and interrupted the judge, who ultimately sentenced him to six years in prison. "You can give me 100 years and I'd do it all over again," Bru said.

At least two other rioters



Rioters are seen at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, in Washington.

Associated Press

shouted "Trump won!" in court after receiving their punishment.

Some people charged in the riot are pinning their hopes on a Trump victory in November.

Rachel Marie Powell, a Pennsylvania woman who was sentenced to nearly five years in prison for smashing a Capitol window, told a CNN reporter that the 2024 presidential election is "like life or death" for her. She said she believes she will get out of prison if Trump is elected.

The rhetoric resonates with the strangers who donate money to Jan. 6 defendant's online campaigns, but it isn't earning them any sympathy from the judges. Judges appointed by presidents from both political parties have described the riot as an affront to democracy and they repeatedly have admonished defendants for not showing true remorse or casting themselves as victims.

Over more than three years, judges have watched hours of video showing members of the mob violently shoving past overwhelmed officers, shattering windows, attacking police with things such as flagpoles and pepper spray and threatening violence against lawmak-

ers. In court hearings, officers have described being beaten, threatened and scared for their lives as they tried to defend the Capitol. Before sentencing a Kentucky man, who already had a long criminal record, to 14 years in prison for attacking police with pepper spray and a chair, U.S. District Judge Amit Mehta admonished the man for propagating "the lie that what's happening here in Washington, D.C., is unfair and unjust."

"You are not a political prisoner," Mehta, who was nominated by President Barack Obama told Peter Schwartz. "You're not Alexei Navalny," the judge said referring to the imprisoned Russian opposition leader. "You're not somebody who is standing up against injustice, who's fighting against an autocratic regime. ... You're somebody who decided to take the day into his own hands, much in the same way that you have used your hands against others for much of your life." Lamberth's scathing remarks came in the case of James Little, a North Carolina man who was not accused of any violence or destruction during the riot and pleaded guilty only to a misdemeanor offense.

Lamberth didn't name the people responsible for what the judge called "shameless" attempts to rewrite history. But Trump has closely aligned himself with rioters during his presidential campaign. He has described them as "hostages," called for their release from jail and pledged to pardon a large portion of them if he wins the White House in November.

Roughly 750 people charged with federal crimes in the riot have pleaded guilty and more than 100 others have been convicted at trial. Many rioters were charged only with misdemeanor offenses akin to trespassing while others face serious felonies such as assault or seditious conspiracy. Of those who have been sentenced, roughly two-thirds have received some time behind bars, with terms ranging from a few days of intermittent confinement to 22 years in prison, according to data compiled by The Associated Press.

Lamberth had originally sentenced Little in 2022 to 60 days behind bars, followed by three years of probation. But Washington's federal appeals court sided with Little on appeal, ruling he could

not be sentenced to both prison time and probation. When Little's case returned to Lamberth's court, the judge resentenced him to 150 days — with credit for time already served in jail and on probation — citing the man's claims of persecution and efforts to downplay the Jan. 6 attack.

"Little cannot bring himself to admit that he did the wrong thing, although he came close today," Judge Lamberth wrote. "So it is up to the court to tell the public the truth: Mr. Little's actions, and the actions of others who broke the law on Jan. 6, were wrong. The court does not expect its remarks to fully stem the tide of falsehoods. But I hope a little truth will go a long way."

An attorney for Little declined to comment on Lamberth's remarks.

In other cases, judges have said their sentence must send a message when rioters have promoted the notion that they are being unfairly prosecuted for their political views. U.S. District Judge Christopher Cooper told Richard "Bigo" Barnett, the Arkansas man who propped his feet on a desk in then-House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's office in a widely circulated photo, that he seemed to enjoy the notoriety of becoming one of the faces of the Jan. 6 attack.

"You have made yourself one of the faces of J6 not just through that photo but using your platform and your notoriety to peddle the misconception that you and other J6ers are somehow political prisoners who are being persecuted for your beliefs as opposed to your conduct on Jan. 6," Cooper, an Obama appointee, told Barnett before sentencing him to more than four years in prison.

"So to all those folks that follow Bigo, they need to know that the actions of Jan. 6 cannot be repeated without some serious repercussions," the judge said. □

After U.S. strikes in Yemen, Iran issues a warning about suspected spy ships in the Mideast

By JON GAMBRELL, LOLITA C. BALDOR and TARA COPP
Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Iran issued a warning Sunday to the U.S. over potentially targeting two cargo ships in the Mideast long suspected of serving as forward operating bases for Iranian commandos. The warning came just after the U.S. and the United Kingdom launched a massive airstrike campaign against Yemen's Houthi rebels.

The statement from Iran on the Behshad and Saviz ships appeared to signal Tehran's growing unease over U.S. strikes in recent days in Iraq, Syria and Yemen targeting militias backed by the Islamic Republic.

Those strikes were in retaliation for the killing of three U.S. soldiers and wounding of dozens of others in Jordan, attacks that stem back to Israel's war on Hamas in the Gaza Strip, which has escalated tensions across the wider Middle East and raised fears about a regional conflict breaking out.

The U.S. strikes overnight Sunday struck across six provinces of Yemen held by the Houthi rebels, including in Sanaa, the capital. The Houthis gave no assessment of the damage but the U.S. described hitting underground missile arsenals, launch sites and helicopters used by the rebels.



In this image provided the Ministry of Defence, an RAF Typhoon FRG4 aircraft prepares to take off to conduct further strikes against Houthi military targets in Yemen, from RAF Akrotiri, Cyprus, Saturday, Feb. 3, 2024.

Associated Press

"These attacks will not discourage Yemeni forces and the nation from maintaining their support for Palestinians in the face of the Zionist occupation and crimes," Houthi military spokesman Brig. Gen. Yahya Saree said. "The aggressors' airstrikes will not go unanswered."

U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin warned the Houthis after the strikes that "they will continue to bear further consequences if they do not end their illegal attacks on international shipping and naval

vessels." That message was echoed by British Foreign Secretary David Cameron, who said: "The Houthi attacks must stop."

Biden's national security adviser, Jake Sullivan, also warned the strikes may continue.

"We are prepared to deal with anything that any group or any country tries to come at us with," Sullivan told CBS' "Face the Nation." "And the president has been clear that we will continue to respond to threats that Ameri-

can forces face as we go forward."

The Behshad and Saviz are registered as commercial cargo ships with a Tehran-based company the U.S. Treasury has sanctioned as a front for the state-run Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Lines. The Saviz, then later the Behshad, have loitered for years in the Red Sea off Yemen, suspected of serving as spy positions for Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard.

In 2017, Saudi Arabia de-

scribed the Saviz as a maritime base and weapons transfer point for the Guard, staffed by men in military fatigues. Footage aired by Saudi-owned television channels showed the vessel armed with what appeared to be a covered machine gun bolted to the ship's deck. In the video statement Sunday by Iran's regular army, a narrator for the first time describes the vessels as "floating armories." The narrator describes the Behshad as aiding an Iranian mission to "counteract piracy in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden." However, Iran is not publicly known to have taken part in any of the recent campaigns against rising Somali piracy in the region off the back of the Houthi attacks.

Just before the new campaign of U.S. airstrikes began, the Behshad traveled south into the Gulf of Aden. It's now docked in Djibouti in East Africa just off the coast from a Chinese military base in the country.

The statement ends with a warning overlaid with a montage of footage of U.S. warships and an American flag. "Those engaging in terrorist activities against Behshad or similar vessels jeopardize international maritime routes, security and assume global responsibility for potential future international risks," the video said. □



Supporters of the Pakistani religious group Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) attend an election campaign rally in Karachi, Pakistan, Sunday, Feb. 4, 2024.

Associated Press

By MUNIR AHMD
Associated Press

ISLAMABAD (AP) — A Pakistani court on Saturday

convicted and sentenced former Prime Minister Imran Khan and his wife to seven years in prison on a charge

Pakistan's former premier Imran Khan and wife convicted of marriage law violation in a fourth case

that their 2018 marriage violated the law, officials and a lawyer said.

The latest verdict follows another case in which Khan and his wife, Bushra Bibi, were sentenced to 14 years in prison on Wednesday for corruption. It comes ahead of Feb. 8 parliamentary elections in which Khan has already been disqualified because of graft convictions while his party is struggling to run an election campaign.

It was Khan's fourth convic-

tion since 2022, when he was ousted from power. His sentences total 34 years and will be served concurrently. Analysts say Khan's multiple and apparently hasty convictions are seen by his party and supporters as punishment for his rhetoric against Pakistan's powerful military leadership, which has ruled the country for half of its 76-year history. During his final months in power, Khan had broadened his fight with opponents to include the

military.

The lawyer for the couple, Intisar Panjutha, said the verdict was announced by Judge Quadrat Ullah a day after the trial ended. Khan and his family insist the trial is politically motivated.

Bibi, Khan's third wife, was a spiritual healer who was previously married to a man who claimed that they divorced in November 2017, less than three months before she married Khan. Bibi has said they divorced in August 2017. □

Streets of Oranjestad illuminated with the magic of the Lighting Parade for Carnival 70



Saturday, Aruba celebrated the Grand Lighting Parade Oranjestad in a show of color, music, dancing and of course, lights!

As Aruba is in the midst of the 70th Carnival celebrations, one of the most attractive events is the Lighting Parade, as it takes place at night in a cooler party atmosphere. This year, a total of nine Carnival groups participated, each with its unique theme and colors, but all with a festive ambience.

The group sequence for the parade was:

1. TOB Carnival Group
2. Infinity Carnival Group
3. Royal Carnival Group
4. Empire Carnival Group
5. Champagne Carnival Group
6. Dushi Carnival Group
7. Los Laga Bai Carnival Group
8. OPC Carnival Group
9. Carnival Group

The parade started at the Aruba Entertainment Center in Dakota, passing through Avenida Milio Croes, Vondellaan, LG Smith Boulevard, and ended on the Turbo Roundabout on the Boulevard.

Missed it or want to see more? You can still catch the Lighting Parade in San Nicolas! This will take place on Wednesday, February 7th starting at 8pm. The official route will be announced in the coming days, so stay tuned! And check the schedule so you don't miss any of the most important activities for Carnival 70, which will culminate in a weekend of back-to-back parades in Oranjestad and San Nicolas. □



More pictures of of the Lighting Parade on Page 6...

Streets of Oranjestad illuminated with the magic of the Lighting Parade for Carnival 70 *(more pictures...)*



CARNAVAL ENTERTAINMENT ON TUESDAYS



7PM
Steelpan



8PM
Carnaval Show



8:30PM
Carnaval themed watershow

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Rhythms Circus Company Aruba: putting Aruba's name on the world stage



Rhythms Circus Company Aruba is a talented group of young people working daily to present their art in the form of acrobatics, dancing, acting and singing. After an impactful participation in one of America's biggest talent shows, they are now bringing their amazing talent to Aruba!

In a show full of light, music, and with performances to famous musical figures like Elvis Presley, Michael Jackson and Tina Turner, the group consisting of 15 people from various countries delights the audience with their artistic prowess at the Paseo Herencia Mall, every Wednesday and Friday starting at 7pm. Each day has a different show, so you can attend both nights for the complete experience!

In a show full of light, music, and with performances to famous musical figures like Elvis Presley, Michael Jackson and Tina Turner, the group consisting of 15 people from various countries delights the audience with their artistic prowess at the Paseo Herencia Mall, every

Wednesday and Friday starting at 7pm. Each day has a different show, so you can attend both nights for the complete experience!

RCCA also offers the possibility for you and your family to enjoy dinner before the show! Starting from 6pm, you and your family can delight from the wide-ranged menu that includes a variation of delicious main course meals complete with a delectable flan dessert as a sweet treat. Enjoy your dinner even more at a VIP table complete with comfort seating!

The group, under the leadership of directors and creators Diego Jaramillo and Yamila Hernandez are opening the doors to the ballroom to our local audience as well as our visitors so that everyone can have the privilege of experiencing this wonderful show.

Hernandez explained that the idea for this project started in 2010 when she came to work in Aruba. After being on the island for a while she decided to stay and live here, and she met Diego Jaramillo, who is currently her partner. Together they came with the idea to establish a company together with other professional artists, with the goal of living from their art. Hernandez says that the work is hard – all of the performers are professional artists, and while the production of the show is not a challenge for them, selling the idea proved difficult since at the time, there weren't any shows of its kind on the island.


America's Got Talent

Currently they are offering a show with mu-

sic, choreography and at the end, they have a shocking acrobatics ending, one that was seen by thousands of people around the world when the group travelled to Los Angeles in the United States to represent Aruba in America's Got Talent. Hernandez said that the show was very important for them to meet the public present because people could experience this performance live and right before their eyes.

Their presentation in America's Got Talent "was incredible" and they were able to meet the jury and many other artists staying there for three months. But the exhaustion and physical toll was so great that Diego suffered an accident, and because of this, they had to cancel all future commitments.

Reservations and tickets

To make a reservation to see this incredible display of creativity and acrobatics, scan the QR code which will take you directly to their website for a booking. To find more information about RCCA, please visit their Instagram page @rccaruba. 



Aruba to me

ORANJESTAD — You are back and we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.


Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation.

Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make

you a happy reader every day again. For today we received a lovely message from Jerry and Linda Malloy.

They wrote to us saying: "We are celebrating our 50th wedding anniversary on February 8, 2024, by renewing our wedding vows on the beautiful island of Aruba. Aruba has been our annual destination for the last 25 years.

We could not be more thrilled to be here to celebrate our milestone event. Thank you for the opportunity to share our moment with you. We are from the Upstate New York area. This memory will be one that we will remember and celebrate forever."

Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers! 





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Aruba's most family-friendly beaches

(Oranjestad)—One of the biggest concerns that parents have when travelling with their children is a guarantee of their safety and healthy enjoyment. Therefore, we thought it would be a great help to travelling parents to list off some of the most family-friendly beaches around the island.

Baby Beach in San Nicolas

Baby Beach is one of Aruba's most popular and visited beaches, and for good reason: This sandy and quiet lagoon is a great place for parents to sit back and relax while their children play in the shallow shores of the beach. Beside the relaxing atmosphere, there are also several services that may accommodate your stay, like a parking

lot, sun tent rentals, chairs, bathrooms and a snack bar right at the far left of the beach.

Mangel Halto in Pos Chiquito

Mangel Halto is situated in the back streets of the Pos Chiquito city. Though there are several stairs on the sides of the beach cliff leading you down, the best spot for families to hang out is across the bridge, passed the mangrove trees near the entrance sign. Here, there are small and big palapas, perfect for big and small families to set up their belongings. In this area, the shore is also shallow, falling right around your knee before slowly getting deeper: perfect for kids to safely play.

Eagle Beach/Palm Beach in the hotel area

Yet another highly popular beach site, Eagle Beach and Palm Beach is where most of our visitors go to tan, swim or play in the white sand. Because they are near the low-rise and high-rise hotel areas, these beaches are the most accessible for visitors on foot. These beaches also offer many palapas free to use, but you can also rent chairs and tents. Much like Baby Beach, these sites are one of the best beaches for your children to play and build sand castles.

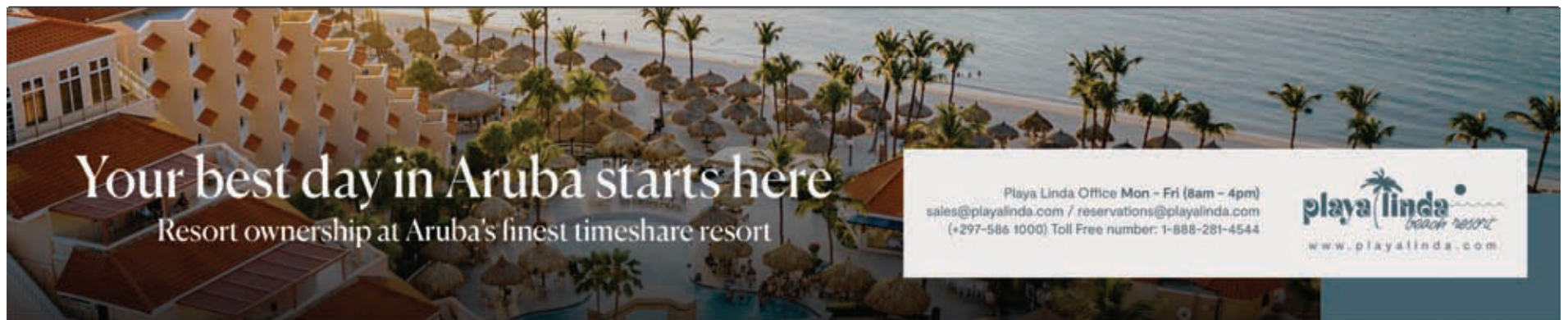
Boca Catalina in Malmok

Boca Catalina is a small bay beach near the Malmok beach area further down the hotel areas. Though

it may not be a very sandy beach, it is relatively quiet and tranquil. This is a great place for family to lay down a big blanket and have a little picnic. This is also one of the best places to snorkel, as this area is filled with little fish and corals, even close to the shore.

Palm Island

Ok, this one is technically not a beach, but a must-visit attraction for family fun. This small water park oasis is located further down the Mangel Halto Beach and is reachable by boat. This water park offers 6 hours of fun activities, food, drinks, and a chance to see pink flamingoes up close! ☐



Did you know about...?

The history and meaning of the Aruban florin



(Oranjestad)—Aruba Today is proud to officially introduce a new segment called **Did you know about...?**, where we dive into some (historical) facts of Aruba, its culture and way of living. In this first edition, we look back at the Aruban florin: its history, design and symbolism.

In Aruba, we know the 5, 10, 25 and 50 cent coins, along with the 1 and 5 Florin coin. Aruban Florin bills include the 10, 25, 50, 100, and rarely, the 200 bills. In Papiamentu we call our currency Florin, but the umbrella term for money is placa. Cents are called cen (pronounced: seng), both in the singular and plural form. Most coins are circular and their size depend on their worth. However, the 50 cent coin is easily recognizable by their square shape, as is the 5 Florin coin by their golden color. Every coin has the Aruban emblem carved on it, with the other side displaying the worth of the coin. The bigger 1 and 5 florin coins, however, contain the carving of the emblem on one side, while displaying the side profile of the Dutch king, Willem-Alexander, on the other side. When his mother, Princess Beatrix,

was reigning queen, it was her profile that was carved on the two coins.

Outdated Aruban coins and their names

In the past, Aruban coins had distinctive names and also varied in worth. For example, a 5-cent coin was once called *Dos placa*; 10-cent coins were called *debchi*; 25-cent coins were called *diez placa* and the 50-cent coin was once called *Yotin* (pronounced: jo-teen). We also used a distinctive coins worth 2 ½ cents, called *placa too*. However, this last coin is no longer in use and has become a relic of Aruban money. Back then, the 5-Florin coin used to also be square, but now it is circular.

Aruban bills: their design and symbolism

The Aruban Florin collection contains a variation of colorful bills, displaying incredibly detailed and beautiful designs that tell the story of Aruba on a single piece of paper.

Prior to 2019, the Aruban Florin bills were relatively simpler in design compared to now, but still included beautiful designs and colors, often depicting

local animals. These past designs were made by the Aruban artist Everino Fingal in 1990 up to 2019. Between 1990 and 1993, the 5 Florin coin was a bill. The Fingal designs also included a 500-Florin bill, which has now been discontinued.

In 2019, the Central Bank of Aruba commissioned a new design of the Aruba Florin bills, this time selecting artist and former art teacher, Nigel Matthew, to present his new design. Matthew kept the tradition of including local animals and the familiar colors on the bills. However, he included additional designs that represent the Aruban culture and link to the Indigenous inhabitants that were the first to set foot on the island.

Current design and symbolism

10 florin

On the 10-florin bill, you can see a *Turtuga blanco* (white turtle). The blue color symbolizes the blue Caribbean Sea. You can also see the ruins of the *Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruins*, a coral motif, and the symbols of *Cas Floria* (traditional Aruban house design) with a piece of mosaic.

25 florin

On this orange bill, you can see an Aruban medicinal plant called *Shoshoro*. The birds *Trupiaal*, *Shoco*, rock drawings, and the symbols of *Cas Floria* with a piece of mosaic are also depicted. There is also a *Purun di ceramica* (clay pot), in reference to the relics left behind by our indigenous ancestors.

50 florin

On this bill, we see the

Cododo (blue lizard found on the ABC islands), *Cangreu di tera* (land crab), *Willem III Tower*, and again the symbols of *Cas Floria* with a piece of mosaic, as well as a beach plant called *Banana di rif*. The colors are pink/purple.

100 florin

This bill is green in color, representing nature. Here we see the *Yuwana* (Iguana), *Aloe*, *Toteki* (lizard), the symbols of *Cas Floria* with a piece of mosaic, and a dance group performing the *Baile di cinta* (folkloric dance with silk ribbons).

200 florin

There is another bill with a value of 200 dollars. The

brown color symbolizes the earth of Aruba. Here we see the *Dornasol* and the *Warawara*—both local birds, along with the symbols of *Cas Floria* with a piece of mosaic, the *Tuna cactus* plant, and the *Caha di orgel* (folkloric instrument, used for many traditional songs).

Extra fact:

the word “florin” supposedly is named after the Italian city of Florence or it’s a reference to the Italian word “florino”, both explanations related to historical Italian currencies. □

Source: *Placa, placa, placa* by the National Library of Aruba

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Episode CI – 101- Identity awareness



Illegal constructions, unsupervised activities as well as some economic developments are irresponsibly exploiting all that has to do with and related to the incursion of the top as well as the subsoil and its contents. Bio- Surface destruction of an area is one of the worst threats to people's cultural heritage patrimonies and existence itself.

Development pressure or the need to rescue remains prior to their destruction has increased drastically in recent years. Many more private homes projects, offices, shopping centers and parking lots were built on this tiny island. Alongside miles of paved roads and

sidewalks, new neighborhoods, schools and social centers all at the cost of habitat lost and ecological decimation of endangered endemic flora and fauna species, archaeological sites, all once a pristine natural landscape.

Together we must encourage participation by choosing for nature, culture and knowledge. Protect our historical buildings and give value to what must be considered unique heritage resources whether we are considering our next step in tourism of autochthon historical and cultural values or not, since these makes up the national intangible heritage and any

loss would become one that is forever.

It is imperative to consider motivating the population level explaining the benefits of value and commitment relating to the importance of identity and origins found in recollected salvage.

This causes archaeology in historically significant areas to be under threat. Because salvage archaeology is threat-led, it is only rarely possible to be selective about what is examined, and time constraints often mean that many of the more refined techniques of data recovery cannot be deployed. Oth-



ers are the vandalizing of such jewels as prehistoric cave, rock paintings, historical graves found in areas where there were human activities, settlement remains. Preserving through direct evidence recollection of objects and artifact that could be questions linked to available data sources of customs and challenges. Prehistoric artifacts are the only evidence available to study our past, since writing was not so important in their traditions and customs.

Our practice doesn't differ to that of archaeologists and historians, "to leave things in their place to the guard of any alteration", thus keeping archaeological details in their original place because in the near future and with the technological advance they could carry out more sophisticated studies and thus obtain more accurate

data on how our ancestors lived. Based on the concept "to leave things in their place..." Etnia Nativa pride itself on providing a welcome that emanates from Aruba's ethnic roots and the now extinct agropottery culture. We also advocates for nature preservation, creativity and self-consciousness

We working hand in hand with Aruba's Archaeological Department as well as whit together with other science oriented awareness organizations to safeguard or as last resort practice a savage operation in order to safe what there is to be picked up.

At the beginning of the last century until the 1970s you could still find enormous Kwihi trees Prosopis juliflora all around Oranjestad, Aruba's capital city and metate or grinding stones of local lithic material could be found in almost all native homes in Aruba, a legacy of an Agro-potters civilization and a cultural heritage. Almost all rocks surrounded the metate on this picture at the entrance of Etnia Nativa came from salvage where visitors participants interact with archaeological and historical artifacts, contemporary native art and crafts explained by an expert native host.

To get to know a little more regarding Aruba's and its cultural origins, etc. We highly recommend you to book your participation in our cultural encounter session which has been educating participants for decades. Mail us at etnianaativa03@gmail.com our facilities and activities take place close to high rise hotels. □



Article by: Etnia Nativa

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Etnia Nativa is close to the high rise hotels



Kosovo's block on the Serbian currency raises alarm in the EU and U.S.

PRISTINA, Kosovo (AP) — The European Union and the United States expressed their deep concern Sunday after Kosovo banned the use of the Serbian currency and police raided the premises of organizations working with the Serb minority in the north of the country.

In the past week, Kosovo police searched the premises of Serbia-administered institutions and of an ethnic Serb non-governmental organization, confiscating papers and computers believed to hold documentation contrary to the country's laws.

Some of the documents bore the emblem of the Serbian government in Belgrade, police said, while others referred to illegal parallel structures of government set up by ethnic Serbs but not accepted by Kosovo.

Police closed some of those offices.

Most of Kosovo uses the euro, even though the country isn't part of the EU. But parts of Kosovo's north, populated mostly by ethnic Serbs, continue to use the dinar. Many rely on the government of Serbia for financial support, often delivered in dinars in cash.



People line up at a cash machine in northern Serb-dominated part of ethnically divided town of Mitrovica, Kosovo, Thursday, Feb. 1, 2024.

Associated Press

The U.S. Ambassador in Kosovo, Jeffrey Hovenier, also expressed concern over the efforts of Kosovo police to seize the vehicle transporting Serbian dinars which are then distributed for "social benefit payments from Serbia."

A statement from the EU said the closure of those offices would "have negative effects on the daily lives and living conditions of Kosovo

Serb communities, as it will restrict their access to basic social services given the apparent absence of alternatives at this moment."

Starting Feb. 1, Kosovo required ethnic Serbian-dominated areas to adopt the euro currency, which is used in the rest of the country, and abolished the use of the Serbian dinar.

"The EU urges Kosovo to avoid unilateral actions that

could raise tensions, and to address these issues through the EU-facilitated dialogue," the EU statement said.

"These actions are unnecessarily raising ethnic tensions and as a consequence limit the options of the United States to serve as an effective advocate for Kosovo in the international arena," said Hovenier.

Kosovo has ensured "the new rules do not have a negative

impact or penalize the citizens," according to Deputy Prime Minister Besnik Bislimi. The European Union and the United States are pressing both countries to implement agreements that Serbian President Aleksandar Vučić and Kosovo Prime Minister Albin Kurti reached in February and March last year.

The EU-facilitated normalization talks have failed to make progress, especially following a shootout last September between masked Serb gunmen and Kosovo police that left four people dead and ratcheted up tensions.

Serbia and Kosovo have both said they want to join the EU, but the bloc's foreign policy chief, Josep Borrell, has warned that their refusal to compromise is jeopardizing their chances.

Serbian forces fought a 1998-99 war with ethnic Albanian separatists in what was then the province of Kosovo. About 13,000 people, mostly ethnic Albanians, died until a 78-day NATO bombing campaign pushed Serbian forces away. Kosovo eventually declared independence in 2008, but the government in Belgrade doesn't recognize its neighbor as a separate country. □

46 reported dead in Chile as forest fires move into densely populated central areas

By ALEXANDRE PLAZA and PATRICIA LUNA

Associated Press

VIÑA DEL MAR, Chile (AP) —

Intense forest fires burning around a densely populated area of central Chile have caused at least 46 deaths, Chile's president said Saturday evening, and officials said at least 1,100 homes had been destroyed.

In a nationally televised address, President Gabriel Boric warned that the death toll could worsen as four large fires burn in the region of Valparaíso, where firefighters have struggled to reach the most threatened neighborhoods.

Boric urged Chileans to cooperate with rescue workers. "If you are told to evacuate don't hesitate to do it," he

said. "The fires are advancing fast and climatic conditions have made them difficult to control. There are high temperatures, strong winds and low humidity."

Interior Minister Carolina Tohá said earlier Saturday that 92 forest fires were burning in the center and south of the country, where temperatures have been unusually high this week.

The deadliest of the fires were in the Valparaíso region, where authorities urged thousands of people to evacuate their homes.

Meanwhile, residents in areas farther away from the fires were told to stay at home so that fire engines, ambulances and other emergency vehicles can get about on the roads with greater ease.

Tohá said two fires near the towns of Quilpué and Villa Alemana had burned through at least 8,000 hectares (19,770 acres) since Friday. One of the fires was threatening the coastal resort town of Viña del Mar, where some neighborhoods had already been hit hard. In Villa Independencia, a hillside neighborhood on the eastern edge of the town, several blocks of homes and businesses were destroyed. Burned cars with broken windows lined the streets, which were covered in ash.

"I've been here 32 years, and never imagined this would happen," said Rolando Fernández, one of the residents who lost his home. He said he first saw the fire burning on a nearby hill Fri-



A firefighter is silhouetted against a smoke-filled sky as a forest fire spreads into Vina del Mar, Chile, Saturday, Feb. 3, 2024.

Associated Press

day afternoon and within 15 minutes the area was engulfed in flames and smoke, forcing everyone to run for their lives.

"I've worked my whole life, and now I'm left with nothing," Fernández said.

Three shelters were set up in the Valparaíso region, and 19 helicopters and more than 450 firefighters were brought into the area to help battle the blazes, Tohá said. □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Couches
- 6 Shocked sounds
- 11 Visitor from afar
- 12 Push out
- 13 — cotta
- 14 "Keen!"
- 15 Fairy tale monster
- 17 Original
- 18 Prejudice based on social status
- 22 Damage
- 23 Truck fuel
- 27 Wiped out, in skiing slang
- 29 Burner setting
- 30 Common events in whodunits
- 32 Church reply
- 33 Unmindful
- 35 Tree fluid
- 38 Poet Sandburg
- 39 City square
- 41 Usher's place
- 45 Say
- 46 Less cordial
- 47 Rx amounts
- 48 Con-sumerist Ralph

DOWN

- 1 Plopped down
- 2 Bullring cheer
- 3 Fragrant tree
- 4 "Dream On" band
- 5 Un-foreseen problems
- 6 "Invisible Touch" band
- 7 Log chopper
- 8 Reach across
- 9 Comedian Davidson
- 10 Poky
- 16 Relieve (of)
- 18 Libya neighbor

S	A	L	A	D	P	E	R	I	L
E	R	O	D	E	E	L	E	N	A
A	L	O	O	F	G	L	A	D	S
G	E	T	S	E	T	D	O	E	
O	N	E	A	U	D	I	T	O	R
D	E	R	T	R	E	V	O	R	
			F	I	E	F	S		
	K	E	R	N	E	L	E	S	P
L	A	S	A	G	N	A	R	E	O
I	M	P		S	T	A	R	T	S
K	A	R	A	T		I	R	A	T
E	L	I	T	E		N	I	N	E
D	A	T	E	D		G	A	T	E

Saturday's answer

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 19 Tardy | 34 Shower |
| 20 Open space | feature |
| 21 "Enter Sandman" band | 35 Tater |
| 24 One or more | 36 Choir voice |
| 25 Preceding nights | 37 Touches lightly |
| 26 Eye part | 40 Last letter |
| 28 "Drive" band | 42 Comic Caesar |
| 31 Mariner's place | 43 Director Spike |
| | 44 Go astray |

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11					12				
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39			40		41	42	43	44	
45					46				
47					48				

2-5

A X Y D I B A A X R
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

2-5

CRYPTOQUOTE

W S N F B X V L S W M Z S E V O K A
Z F N Y S I N V B A Q S V G X W W B M
N Y O N K Y R J Y F B X N V X W F

W B D S V X I R

Saturday's Cryptoquote: THERE ARE ONLY TWO SEASONS — WINTER AND BASEBALL — BILL VEECK

Keeping children safe on social media: What parents should know to protect their kids

By BARBARA ORTUTAY
AP Technology Writer

Social media CEOs got grilled by Senate lawmakers this week in an emotional and often heated hearing about the dangers their platforms pose to children — sexual predators, videos encouraging suicide and glorifying eating disorders, bullying and addictive features, just to name a few. Republican and Democratic senators came together in a rare show of agreement throughout the hearing, though it's not yet clear if this will be enough to pass legislation such as the Kids Online Safety Act or other proposed measures intended to protect kids from online harms. Even with apparent bipartisan unity, making laws and regulating companies takes time. What are parents — and teens — supposed to do in the meantime? Here are some tips on staying safe, communicating and setting limits on social media — for kids as well as their parents.

IS 13 THE MAGIC AGE FOR SOCIAL MEDIA?

There's already, technically, a rule that prohibits kids under 13 from using platforms that advertise to them without parental consent: The Children's Online Privacy Protection Act that went into effect in 2000 — before today's teenagers were even born. The goal was to protect kids' online privacy by requiring websites and online services to disclose clear privacy policies and get parents' consent before gathering personal information on their kids, among other things. To comply, social



People show photos of their loved ones before the start of a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing with the heads of social media platforms on Capitol Hill in Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024, to discuss child safety.

Associated Press

media companies have generally banned kids under 13 from signing up for their services, although it's been widely documented that kids sign up anyway, either with or without their parents' permission. But times have changed, and online privacy is no longer the only concern when it comes to kids being online. There's bullying, harassment, the risk of developing eating disorders, suicidal thoughts or worse. For years, there has been a push among parents, educators and tech experts to wait to give children phones — and access to social media — until they are older, such as the "Wait Until 8th" pledge that has parents sign a pledge not to give their kids a smartphone until the 8th grade, or about age 13 or 14. Some wait even later, like 16 or 17. But neither social media companies nor the government have done anything concrete to increase the age limit.

IF THE LAW WON'T BAN

KIDS, SHOULD PARENTS?

"There is not necessarily a magical age," said Christine Elgersma, a social media expert at the nonprofit Common Sense Media. But, she added, "13 is probably not the best age for kids to get on social media." The laws currently being proposed include blanket bans on the under-13 set when it comes to social media. The problem? There's no easy way to verify a person's age when they sign up for apps and online services. And the apps popular with teens today were created for adults first. Companies have added some safeguards over the years, Elgersma noted, but these are piecemeal changes, not fundamental rethinks of the services. "Developers need to start building apps with kids in mind," she said. Some tech executives, celebrities such as Jennifer Garner and parents from all walks of life have resorted to banning their kids from social media altogether. While the decision is a personal one that depends on each child and parent, some experts say this could lead to isolating kids, who could be left out of activities and discussions with friends that take place on social media or chat services.

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Continued on Page 13

Keeping children safe on social media: What parents should know to protect their kids

Continued from Page 12

Another hurdle — kids who have never been on social media may find themselves ill-equipped to navigate the platforms when they are suddenly allowed free rein the day they turn 18.

TALK, TALK, TALK

Start early, earlier than you think. Elgersma suggests that parents go through their own social media feeds with their children before they are old enough to be online and have open discussions on what they see. How would your child handle a situation where a friend of a friend asks them to send a photo? Or if they see an article that makes them so angry they just want to share it right away? For older kids, approach them with curiosity and interest. Don't say things like "Turn that thing off!" when your kid has been scrolling for a long time, says Jean Rogers, the director of the nonprofit Fairplay's Screen Time Action Network.

"That's not respectful," Rogers said. "It doesn't respect that they have a whole life and a whole world in that device."

Instead, Rogers suggests asking them questions about what they do on their phone, and see what your child is willing to share. Kids are also likely to respond to parents and educators "pulling back the



Left to right, Discord CEO Jason Citron, Snap CEO Evan Spiegel, TikTok CEO Shou Zi Chew, X CEO Linda Yaccarino and Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg, are sworn in during a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on Capitol Hill in Washington, Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024, to discuss child safety.

Associated Press

curtains" on social media and the sometimes insidious tools companies use to keep people online and engaged, Elgersma said. Watch a documentary like "The Social Dilemma" that explores algorithms, dark patterns and dopamine feedback cycles of social media. Or read up with them how Facebook and TikTok make money. "Kids love to be in the know about these things, and it will give them a sense of power," she said.

SETTING LIMITS

Rogers says most parents have success with taking their kids' phones overnight to limit their scrolling. Occasionally kids might try to sneak the phone back, but it's a strategy that tends to work because kids need a

break from the screen. "They need to an excuse with their peers to not be on their phone at night," Rogers said. "They can blame their parents." Parents may need their own limits on phone use. Rogers said it's helpful to explain what you are do-

ing when you do have a phone in hand around your child so they understand you are not aimlessly scrolling through sites like Instagram. Tell your child that you're checking work email, looking up a recipe for dinner or paying a bill so they understand you're not on there just for fun. Then tell them when you plan to put the phone down. □



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Steve Wilks' roller coaster season as the 49ers defensive coordinator ends at Super Bowl

By JOSH DUBOW

AP Pro Football Writer

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) —

Steve Wilks has had a roller coaster ride in his first season as defensive coordinator for the San Francisco 49ers.

Faced with a tricky task of taking over a successful defense that still had the same position coaches and system of his predecessor DeMeco Ryans, Wilks tried to add his own twists without ruining what had worked so well in the past.

There were good moments such as a dominating five-game start to the season and bad ones such as a three-game losing streak in October that led to Wilks moving from the coaching booth to the sideline.

But the season will end with Wilks calling plays in the Super Bowl with the task of slowing down Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs.

Despite reaching the Super Bowl stage, Wilks' unit is still under fire after two lackluster performances in the playoffs, including allowing 182 yards rushing in the NFC title game win against Detroit that featured a handful of plays, including a 15-yard run by Jahmyr Gibbs, where some players were seen giving less than maximum effort.

"I can tell you as a defense it's unacceptable," Wilks said. "We've got to make sure that



San Francisco 49ers defensive coordinator Steve Wilks, center, watch as players practice at the team's NFL football training facility in Santa Clara, Calif., Thursday, Feb. 1, 2024.

Associated Press

we play every down as if it's going to be the difference in the ballgame. You could see on those particular plays, it wasn't to our standard. Those guys understand and know that and quite honestly it was embarrassing."

Those thoughts were echoed all week by coach Kyle Shanahan, general manager John Lynch and defensive players such as 2022 AP Defensive Player of the Year Nick Bosa and All-Pro linebacker Fred Warner.

"Not good enough. Not good enough at all," Warner said. "The standard has

been what it has been for as long as I've been here. We rely heavily on winning games heavily on defense, holding teams to minimal points, suffocating teams, dictating how the game's going to go based off how we go. That hasn't been the case last few games."

The Niners led the NFL in points allowed (16.3 per game), yards allowed (300.6 per game) and were tied for second in takeaways (30) last season under Ryans, going all the way to the NFC title game for the second straight season.

The numbers this season dropped off only marginally with the 49ers allowing 1.2 more points per game, 3.3 more yards per game and generating two fewer takeaways.

"It was stressful in the beginning of the year," Bosa said. "It seemed like everybody was coming after him. I kind of felt for him because it's not one guy's fault ever in football."

A win in the Super Bowl would be a measure of validation for Wilks, who was passed over a little more than a year ago for the head coaching

job in Carolina despite a 6-6 run as interim coach.

Wilks then joined the Niners staff, while the Panthers had a 2-15 season and fired coach Frank Reich after 11 games.

Wilks is now headed to his third Super Bowl as an assistant coach, having lost previous trips in the 2006 season with Chicago and the 2015 season with Carolina when he was a defensive backs coach.

While Wilks is focused on the task at hand, he did take time to send out a message on social media after the Niners won the NFC title game.

"As I look back on my life, I realize that every time I thought I was being REJECTED from something good, I was actually being re-directed to something better," Wilks wrote on X, the platform formerly known as Twitter.

Wilks, who said before the season that he preferred calling games from the box above the field, was moved down to the sideline in November to improve the communication following a mid-season slide that featured poor tackling and energy from his unit.

Improvement on the field followed with Warner saying it was beneficial to be able to look his play-caller in the eyes when they figured out needed adjustments to make during a game. □



Former New England Patriots head coach Bill Belichick faces reporters during an NFL football news conference, Thursday, Jan. 11, 2024, in Foxborough, Mass., to announce that he has agreed to part ways with the team.

Associated Press

By JIMMY GOLEN
AP Sports Writer

Former Patriots coach Bill Belichick took out a full-

Bill Belichick takes out newspaper ad to thank New England fans for their support

page newspaper ad on Sunday to thank Boston fans for their support during his time on the New England sideline.

"For 24 years, I was blessed to feel your passion and your power," said the ad, which ran in Sunday's Boston Globe and includes an image of Belichick overlooking a large crowd.

"Six times, you packed Boston by the millions for parades that were truly a two-way expression of gratitude and love," he wrote. "The images from those days are

burned in my memory."

Belichick coached the Patriots to six Super Bowl championships and 17 AFC East titles in a 19-year span. But the team struggled after quarterback Tom Brady left, with three losing seasons in four years and a 4-13 record in 2023 that led to Belichick's departure.

Although he interviewed twice for the Atlanta Falcons position, the offseason hiring cycle appears to have concluded without him landing a new job.

Belichick was known for

his time in both Cleveland and New England for being closed-lipped and refusing to engage with reporters or fans longing for information about the team.

But now that he's gone, the hoodie-wearing coach even poked fun at his reputation as a grouch.

"You may even have enjoyed my fashion sense and press conferences, or maybe you just tolerated them," he wrote. "I loved coaching here and, together, we experienced some amazing moments." □

Trade deadline, MVP race and more outdoor hockey are on tap for the 2nd half of the NHL season

By **STEPHEN WHYNO**
AP Hockey Writer

TORONTO (AP) — Even during the All-Star break, Nathan MacKinnon kept thinking ahead to the second half of the NHL season. "You try not to eat too much," MacKinnon said. "You're looking in the mirror and you look fat."

Maybe MacKinnon — and plenty of other players around the league — put on a couple of pounds during All-Star festivities, but the Colorado center doesn't have much to worry about on that front. Getting through the Western Conference is another story.

The stretch run starts Monday with MacKinnon and the Avalanche visiting the New York Rangers and there's plenty to play out over the next 2 1/2 months. The March 8 trade deadline, outdoor games on back-to-back days and the MVP race heating up between MacKinnon and Connor McDavid are among the things to watch before the playoffs start on April 22 and the chase for the Stanley Cup begins.

TRADE FLURRY

Two of the top teams in the league, Vancouver and Winnipeg, made a significant acquisition in recent days. The Canucks got Elias Lindholm from Calgary, the Jets got fellow center Sean Monahan from Montreal and much more activity is expected before the March 8 trade deadline.

Much like last year when Vancouver sent Bo Horvat to the New York Islanders, the wheeling and dealing is getting underway early. That's not good for deadline day television drama, but the next month could be frantic.

"Teams are definitely making some moves," MacKinnon said. "I don't know what we're going to do, but I like our team, for sure."

Among the players who could be on the move are Minnesota goaltender Marc-Andre Fleury, Anaheim's Adam Henrique, Philadelphia's Sean Walker, Washington's Nic Dowd and Ot-

tawa's Jakob Chychrun. The Rangers in win-now mode are a team to watch, as are the rival New Jersey Devils — perhaps in the market for goaltending help.

OUTDOOR HOCKEY

The NHL is taking it outside for games between the Devils and Philadelphia Flyers and then the Rangers and Islanders on Feb. 17 and 18 at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey.

It's the first time the league has done outdoor games in consecutive days and a chance to showcase a couple of longtime division rivalries. "We're really looking forward to that game," Flyers All-Star Travis Konecny said. "It's something that you circle

on the calendar when you find out you're going to be involved in one and try your best to treat it like another game. But there's obviously some excitement around it, and you're looking forward to it."

PLAYOFF RACES

The Devils, Islanders and Seattle Kraken are among the 2023 playoff teams currently out of a spot. Same with Sidney Crosby and the Pittsburgh Penguins, who are built to try to get back in after missing last season.

"Everyone's going to be playing a lot of hockey here the next couple months, so consistency's big," Crosby said. "If you can string some together here and get hot, you're



Colorado Avalanche's Nathan MacKinnon competes during the NHL All-Star hockey skills competition's passing challenge section in Toronto, Friday, Feb. 2, 2024.

Associated Press

playing a lot of games, so for the teams that can do that, they'll get a big push."

"We know we're in the hunt

for it," Bjorkstrand said. "There's other teams playing good hockey, so, yeah, we got to win games." □



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Water's Edge Restaurant is a jewel many had the pleasure to find!

Eagle Beach – When you think of a restaurant that pleases the needs of a whole family or a large group of people with all different tastes? Think Water's Edge Restaurant. Located at the shore of Aruba's most wonderful beach, The Eagle Beach Aruba. Water's Edge Restaurant is guaranteed to serve you a fantastic magical night to remember. Whether you prefer to enjoy the view from indoors air conditioned comfort, outdoors in the soft tropical breeze or under a palapa with your toes in the sand. This spectacular restaurant offers the best ocean view sunset or sky full of stars dinner while the crispy Caribbean night wind caresses your face and plays with your hair.

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Culinary Voyage

Start your gastronomic journey with a scrumptious appetizer such as the Maryland Crab Cakes, maybe the Crispy

Calamari or the mouthwatering creamy Garlic Tarragon Shrimp. You can also opt for a classic French Onion Soup, a Lobster Bisque or the famously Water's Edge House Wedge, a crisp wedge of fresh romaine lettuce topped with homemade blue cheese dressing, diced tomatoes, chopped bacon, caramelized pecans and blue cheese crumbles, drizzled with balsamic reduction. This followed by the Chef's special of seafood such as Fresh salmon filet seasoned and grilled, topped with lemon cilantro butter and served with homemade mashed potatoes and fresh asparagus, a nice plate of Ahi Tuna or a succulent pasta dish like the Florentina Fettuccine Alfredo. Meat Lovers will have their fix with choices of a devourable 22oz. Bone-In "Tomahawk" Rib-Eye, pan seared in garlic infused oil and finished in the oven or our juicy N.Y Strip Loin, seasoned & grilled. All our steaks options are seasoned with a blend of kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper. Served with homemade mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetables and a choice of red wine reduction, green peppercorn demi glace, mushroom sauce, or bacon blue cheese butter. For extra sides the options are delectable. Fresh asparagus, seasonal vegetables, mashed or baked potatoes, fries or rice and beans. Combine your personal choice with one of the most exclusive wine from the great selection of international wines to compliment your dish. Kids will enjoy every item of the specially compiled kids menu and there are also optional dishes for all vegans, vegetarians and gluten-free guests. To end the culinary voyage with some luscious sweetness, the desserts are wild. From a piece of coconut flan, NY cheese cake, carrot cake, chocolate brownie or our classic Tiramisu with kahlua and amaretto served with choco-



late sauce and coffee jelly. Not to mention the fresh and light piece of key lime pie.

Creating memories

If you are planning a birthday dinner, here you will receive a nice bottle of champagne to take home with you to extend your experience even further whether on the beach or your own private balcony.

Live entertainment

Just about every day of the week, there is a different live entertainment by the best local artists for you to enjoy. Whether you're in a romantic mood, or more in a swinging mood, there is absolutely a night especially for you where you can combine great music with delicious cocktails mixed with concoctions. In addition, Water's Edge offers three daily Happy Hours from 12pm-1pm, 4pm-6pm and again from 9pm-10pm with all premium brands specially priced.

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Whether you join us for breakfast, lunch or dinner, Water's Edge Restaurant & Bar offers a relaxed and inspirational dining experience overlooking the beautiful Eagle Beach with spectacular ocean views. Gather with friends and family for drinks and appetizers or a night of pampering and relaxation.

Thank you to all our guests

From the bottom of our hearts, we would like to Thank all of our guests who showed us so much love and support all throughout the year, and hopefully will continue to do so in the years to come. What we are most grateful for is that we could get back to doing what we love, which is looking after our guests. So, thank you for every dinner, lunch, breakfast, every to-go order, every glass of wine, every birthday, anniversary and date-night that you spent with us this last year. To our new guests, Welcome! We hope you to see you back soon! ☐



"Water's Edge Restaurant is where magnificent beach views, amazing food and excellent service come together."

Water's Edge is open daily from 8am – 11pm

To reserve your table please call **+297 583-8000 / ext 8106** or direct line **+297 586-9494**

For more information about the menus, entertainment and hours, please visit the website **watersedge-aruba.com**

